From: Robert Storey
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 9:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

As a US citizen and knowledgeable computer user, I would like to excercise my right to comment during the Tunney Act review period on the proposed settlement that the US Justice Department has offered to Microsoft.

To put it simply, the DoJ settlement is little more than a shameful sellout that will do nothing to restrain Microsoft's monopolistic practices. I fully support the States that are continuing the court case in the hopes of attaining a far more strict settlement.

The proposal that Microsoft make amends by "donating" software to schools will actually extend Microsoft's monopoly into the educational system. I strongly support the suggestion by Red Hat that Microsoft should donate hardware with no OS installed, and allow Red Hat (and other OS vendors) to donate the operating system free so that students are exposed to more than just the Windows OS.

To mention another specific remedy I would like to see: Microsoft should be forced to open all their APIs so that programmers working with other operating systems can ensure that there products will work in a network which contains Windows OS computers. The APIs for Microsoft Office should be similarly opened. Microsoft's attempt to hijack standards and hide them behind closed APIs should no longer be tolerated.

sincerely yours, Robert Storey